

MINUTES OF MARION CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023
6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting was held by Marion City Council on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in which Mayor Ashley Brady presided. Council members Ronald Atkinson, Michael Baker, Donny Gerald, and Tassie Lewis were present. Councilman Joseph Frazier and Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt was not in attendance. Staff present were City Administrator Alan Ammons, City Attorney James Brogdon, and Police Chief Tony Flowers.

Mayor Ashley Brady called the meeting to order, gave the opening prayer, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He then welcomed citizens and guests.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 10, 2023:

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting held on January 10, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, and carried unanimously.

JANUARY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

Mayor Ashley Brady named municipal court clerk Heather Evans the January Employee of the Month. Mayor Brady thanked Heather for all that she does at the Police Department.

APPROVE DATE FOR CITY EMPLOYEE PARTY:

Mayor Brady stated the city would like to start back having the annual City Employee Party at the Woodhaven Restaurant as it was held prior to the Covid pandemic. Councilman Ronald Atkinson made a motion to schedule the City Employee Party for March 27, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the Woodhaven Restaurant. The motion was seconded by Councilman Michael Baker, and carried unanimously.

BID APPROVALS:

➤ **Generator Bids**

City Administrator Alan Ammons stated that the city received a grant from FEMA to purchase generators for the Shannon Wilkerson and the Tollison gyms. Mr. Ammons stated that the city's match would be 25% which totals \$44,750, and will be paid from ARP funds. Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to accept the low bid of \$179,900 from Cox Mechanical for the generators. The motion was seconded by Councilman Donny Gerald, and carried unanimously.

➤ **Public Works Shelter Bids**

Council discussed the Public Works shelter bids as presented. Mayor Brady recused himself from the discussion, as his brother Patrick Brady submitted a bid. Mr. Ammons stated that several bids were received which included metal shelters and wooden shelters. Following discussion, council agreed to rebid the project and be more specific in requesting metal shelters only.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Alan Ammons provided an update regarding the Manning Street truck parking area. Following a lengthy discussion regarding truck routes and parking, council agreed to send a letter to the county regarding a potential truck parking area on Senator Gasque Road.

Mr. Ammons provided an update on the land purchased by the city and county near Wal-Mart that will be utilized for a potential hotel development.

CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE:

City Attorney James Brogdon had no legal update.

DISTRICTS AND CITY UPDATE FOR COUNCIL AND MAYOR:

Police Chief Tony Flowers provided a demonstration of the new City of Marion Crime app. This app is used to provide real-time crime and important information to citizens.

Mayor Ashley Brady stated that construction has started on the new Green Street Sports Complex, as well as the sidewalk paving. The old Heritage Sportswear property is also being cleaned.

Councilman Michael Baker asked for an update on the Catfish Creek fishing pier project. Mayor Brady stated that the project will likely start this spring. Councilman Baker also inquired about updates to the City Code of Ordinance book. Mr. Ammons advised that the City Clerk is currently working to get the code book updated.

Councilman Ronald Atkinson had no update.

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and for their contributions to Black History.

Councilman Donny Gerald had no update.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Ronald Atkinson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter, and a personnel matter regarding the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Donny Gerald, and carried unanimously.

POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to return to regular session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, and carried unanimously. There was no action taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Michael Baker and seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Ashley Brady

City Clerk Lakesha Y. Shannon